FC FLOWER COMICS
少コミフラワーコミックス

渡瀬悠宇

あっぱれ
天晴じぱんぐ！
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小学館
FC7480

Sho-Comi
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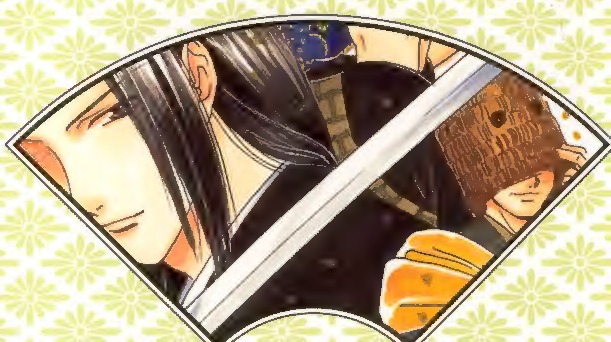


少コミ
フラワーコミックス

●表題作紹介

★おEDO一番のお元気娘・桜桃は、人の悲しみを癒す「悲消屋」稼業。いつか本当の両親に会える日を夢見て、今日も相棒・金剛丸と大暴れ！　そんなある日、彼女の前に実の父親だと名乗る男が現れて？　桜桃の出生の秘密、そして初恋の行方やいかに‼　大EDOはっちゃきコメディー、怒涛の完結巻。

●収録作品／天晴じぱんぐ！③／オトメのハジメ

YUSURA FALLS IN LOVE?!

DON'T BECOME A BUM OR A ROBBER!
BE CAREFUL! DRESS SO YOU DON'T CATCH A COLD!
AS SOON AS I FIND OUT WHERE I WAS BORN, I'LL COME STRAIGHT HOME!
WHAT'S WITH THE CRYING, POPS? MOM?
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?
DON'T BECOME A BUM OR A ROBBER!
BE CAREFUL TO NOT CATCH COLD.

Scans/Edits - Cosmos

Watase's Sorai - yuuwatase.org

アシさんによる ぽちG設定集
(一部)

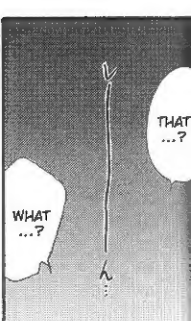
Pochi G(reat) Amphibious mode
Invented by Yusura's father
WELL YOU CAN'T BLAME THEM! GIVING UP THE SON THEY'VE RAISED WITH TENDER LOVING CARE FOR 16 YEARS...
THUNK!
DID I SAY SON? I MEANT DAUGHTER!
WE FINALLY LEFT! JEEZ, HELD UP THREE HOURS BY MY PARENTS' BAWLING.
THE NUMBERS HAVE EXCEEDED EVEN MY EXPECTATIONS.
COME ON, IT'S NOT THAT BAD. LOOK AT ALL THE PARTING GIFTS WE GOT FROM EVERYONE!
OWW!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING WITH A VIDEO CAMERA ?!
JUST TILT YOUR HEAD A LITTLE TO THE LEFT... HOLD IT, HOLD IT...
IT'S A JOURNEY, NOT A BRIDAL SHOWER!
WE'RE LOOKING TO FIND WHERE I WAS BORN, RIGHT? THERE HAVE TO BE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO WOULD WANT MY KONGOU-MARU...
.....
SAMON CAME WITH ME BECAUSE HE WAS WORRIED, BUT...
Full of schemes
ON THIS TRIP, I WILL BECOME YUSURA'S VERY INTIMATE FRIEND...
THIS IS MY CHANCE!
SHUT UP AND LET'S EAT HIS LUNCH WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED!
MUNCH MUNCH
LUM, YUSURA-SAN... MAYBE YOU SHOULD...
THEN THE SECOND TIME I MAKE HER LAUGH, OUR EYES WILL MEET AND I'LL SLOWLY TAKE HER CLOTHES OFF AND...
AND ONCE I DO THAT, EVEN A MANGA THIS INNOCENT WILL BE FILLED WITH SEX!

NO IDEA.
SO, UM, WHERE EXACTLY IS IT HEADING NOW?
WE ARE NOW TURNING LEFT.
THIS INVENTION TRULY IS A SUCCESS, YUSURA-SAN!
I HAVE TO SAY, POPS REALLY DID A NUMBER MAKING THIS CAR THING!
カーナビ?
WE ARE NOW TURN-ING RIGHT.
I WONDER HOW HE CAN SEARCH WITH SUCH A GOOD MOOD...
WE'RE ALREADY MAKING GOOD TIME AWAY FROM EDO THAT...
HUH?
BY "NO IDEA" YOU MEAN "WE WAKE UP IN AINO-FUCKIN-SATO" RIGHT?
NO, I MEAN THAT SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THAT IS, I JUST ENTERED THE MOST LIKELY VILLAGE AND DECIDED TO SEE WHERE IT TOOK US.
20 METERS AHEAD WE WILL TURN AT THE CORNER OF YE OLDE VII XI.
ΔΔΔ~!

LOOK BOTH WAYS BEFORE YOU CROSS THAT STREET!
GYAAAH!
WHAT THE HELL?!
HM?

WHAT WHAT WHAT DO WE DO?!
THIS... IS BAD...
WHAT'RE YOU, AN ANNOUNCER?!
jeez, shaddup already!
CURRENTLY, WE HAVE RUN A PEDESTRIAN OVER, FOLLOWED BY A SURPRISED REACTION FROM THE PASSENGERS...
あわわわわ


THAT ...?
WHAT ...?

WE THOUGHT WE'D GO MAKE SURE THE BARROW LOOKS ALRIGHT!
GAH, THEY RAN!
すたたた

FUCKIN' BASTARDS! YER JUST GONNA RUN AWAY?!
WELL, WE WOULDN'T CALL IT "RUNNING AWAY" REALLY ...
IF WORD OF THIS GOT OUT IN EDO, IT'D RUIN MY SORROW FIGHTER REP FOREVER!

HE'S GOTTA BE AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE...

!!
UN...
!!
GOD! YOU! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?!
OW! OW! OW!
Y...YOU...

AM I STILL ALIVE?
WERE I TO DIE, MY BROTHER MINEKICHI WOULD IMMEDIATELY DRAW UP A PLAN TO CAST YOU INTO DISHONOR
HA!
HEH, I WONDER WHAT MINEKICHI WOULD SAY IF HE HEARD THAT.
YUSURA-SAN SURE IS TAKING HER TIME! I HOPE NOTHING HAPPENED...
SHE CAN TAKE CARE OF HERSELF JUST FINE YOU KNOW!
!?
THERE YOU ARE, YUSURA...

WHAT THE?!

SAMON, CUT IT OUT!
WHAT KINDA CRAP IS THAT?!
THE TWO OF US ARE SIMPLY A CASE OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!
IS IT NOT YOU WHO IS IN THE WRONG FOR SPYING?
YOU BASTARD! ATTACKING LONE WOMEN OUT OF SHEER SPITE...!
TASTE MY REVENGE!
HE...HE DIDN'T FORCE ME TO DO ANYTHING.
JUST...ALL OF THE SUDDEN MY HEART STARTED POUNDING IN MY CHEST AND...
YUSURA ...?!
SHE'S... BLUSHING!

"INEMURI MEANS "NAP"
"AN ANAGRAM OF HIS NAME, SHIROUTO, MEANS "LAY PERSON" OR "AMATEUR"
SQUISH!
I AM CALLED INEMURI* TOUSHIROU.
I AM DEEPLY INDEBTED TO YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU.
ばう
AND YET PERHAPS BECOMING "LOST" WAS A FORTUITOUS THING,
BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO MEET YUSURA-DONO IN THE PROCESS
IN THE PROCESS OF RETURNING TO MY HOME VILLAGE, IT SEEMS I HAD "LOST" THE ROAD AND...
WHICH VILLAGE WOULD THAT BE?
IT IS A VILLAGE CALLED HATSU-TARI.
AL-ALRIGHT! WE'LL TAKE YA TO YER VILLAGE.

YUSURA-DONO...
そっ
IT'S THE LEAST WE CAN DO FER RUNNIN' YA OVER!
WHAT?!
BUT YUSURA! WE...
かあっ...
I HAVE NO NEED FOR PITY.
PLEASE, LET US GO TO MY VILLAGE TOGETHER. I CANNOT PART WITH YOU SO EASILY...
Gah!
YUSURA, WE NEED TO TALK!
くいっ
SAMON, WHAT THE HELL?
STOP IT, YUSURA! YOU'RE ACTING... WEIRD.
HUH? HOW?

AFTER JUST MEETING HIM, YOU'RE REALLY... HIM.. YOU..
BUT... YOU'RE JOKING RIGHT?
IT WOULD SEEM TO BE LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S PRETTY WEIRD?!
IT'S JUST THAT...WHENEVER I LOOK AT TOUSHIROU-DONO, MY CHEST ALMOST EXPLODES FROM MY HEART BEATING SO HARD...
THE ONLY THING THAT STOPPED IT WAS TO KISS HIM.
STANDING UP...
...IS KINDA DANGEROUS.
NO NO NO NO NO!
ah
SAMON!

Either way, they eventually arrived at Matsutari as one party, yet...
WE'RE HERE!
mmm... we have reached our destination
HUH? THIS SMELL...
IT'S THE SMELL OF SULFUR. SINCE LONG AGO, THIS VILLAGE HAS BEEN FILLED WITH HOT SPRINGS.
SO THAT'S WHERE HE WAS I SEE YER NAPPING IN PEOPLES' SHADOWS AGAIN, KAZANOSUKE.
SHADDUP! DUMBASS NINJA.
IT SMELLS AWFUL! SAMON-SAMA, PERHAPS?

WELCOME HOME, TOUSHIROU!
OMIYA! HOW ARE YOU?
NOW THAT'S A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN! ABSOLUTELY NOTHING LIKE YUSUKA-SAN!
OMIYA IS A CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF MINE SHE RUNS THE HOTEL ON THE HOT SPRINGS, SO USE IT WHENEVER YOU WANT!
KI...KISHIMA SAMON...
OH MY, LOOK WHAT WE HAVE HERE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, HONEY?
A LONG TIME AGO I HEARD A STORY ABOUT THAT LEGENDARY VILLAGE THAT...
OH MY! THAT POLE THING JUST TURNED BLUE RIGHT NOW!
HM?

AINO-SATO..
IT'S CALLED AINOSATO AND THEY'RE THE ONES THAT MADE "THE KON-GOUMARU, SWALLOWER OF PEOPLES' SADNESS"!
YA CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE?! I'M SEARCHING FOR THAT VILLAGE!
YUSURAAA ...
-SAMA?! WHO IS THAT HANDSOME MAN WITH YUSURA?!
JUST WORKED 10
THAT'S CORRECT, YUSURA-DONO! BUT FIRST YOU MUST REFRESH YOURSELF IN A BATH...
IT MAY BE CLOSE BY! THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE KNOW A LOT ABOUT THE SUR-ROUNDING LAND.
THERE HAS TO BE ONE OR TWO PEOPLE WHO KNOW SOME-THING MORE.
I WOULD MOST LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE...
ゆっ
?

AHH, FEELS GOOD, DOESN'T IT?
DOESN'T IT, SAMON-SAMA?
HOT SPRINGS, HOT SPRINGS! WE'RE AT A HOT SPRINGS!

WELL, EVEN I, A FAN OF YUSURA-SAN, WAS SHOCKED BY HER SUDDENLY BEING SMITTEN BY THAT MAN.
I SUPPOSE IT WAS JUST FATE.
おぽっ
I DON'T SEE WHAT'S SO DAMN GREAT ABOUT THAT GUY!!
SAMON-SAMA.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO WASH YOUR BACK? ♥
おしゃ
which part of him are you talking to?

I MEAN, REALLY WHEN IT'S SAMON THAT...
BUT... CAN I REALLY BE IN LOVE WITH THAT GUY?
A CLUE SHOWING UP ABOUT NOW WOULD BE FUCKIN' GREAT, KONGOU-MARU...
ぽっ
SMACK
YUSHIRA-DONO!
!!
YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?
.....
FROM EDO! YOU DON'T SAY!
HUH?
THIS BITES ASS! CAN I REALLY BE...
HSTS HSTS

BUT REALLY, I JUST WANT SOMEONE TO SCOOP ME UP AND TAKE ME FAR AWAY. AND IF THAT MAN WERE SAMON-SAMA...
ドキ…
AH
YUSURA-SAAAN!
……
SAMON, WHAT THE HELL?
NO MATTER WHAT I SAY OR HOW SHITTY I TREAT YOU, YOU'RE STILL DOIN' OKAY.
YOU HAVE TO DO WELL FER YER OWN SAKE!
YUSURAAA !!
YASURA, YOU BIIIITCH!
しゃかしゃかしゃかしゃか
looks like a full moon tonight, Damon-sama
FUCKIN' PERV!

がつ
がつ
がつ
がつ
BY THE WAY, YASURA-DONO...
THIS FOOD'S FUCKIN' GREAT!
IS YOUR FORE-HEAD ALRIGHT, SAMON-SAMA?
YOU'RE RETARDED, RIGHT?
WHAT HE'S TRYING TO SAY IS THAT THIS IS AINOSATO!
NOOO~! THIS PLACE HAS TO BE HEAVEN!
I SEE...
MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES, BUT WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND INFORMATION ON THIS "AINOSATO".
IF I WERE TO HAVE THAT KONGOU STICK, SOME VILLAGERS MIGHT RECOGNIZE IT AND REMEMBER SOMETHING WON'T YOU LEND IT TO ME?

チラッ
UH... REALLY SORRY, BUT I SORTA DON'T LEND IT OUT...
I SEE. NAY, IT IS FINE.
IF IT SHALL BE LIKE THAT, WOULD YOU NOT MEET ME TONIGHT?
JUST THE TWO OF US.
ドキッ
EHHHHH?!
ヒカル

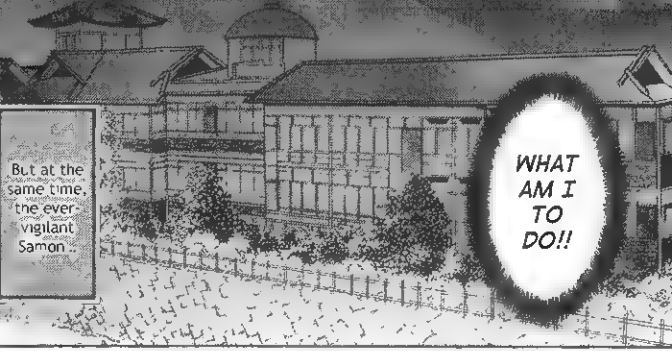
SAMON, WHAT THE HELL? SHOULDN'T YOU BE ASLEEP OR SOMETHING?
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING AT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT?
I learned my technique from Kazemaru.
YUSURA ...
HUH?
IT'S TURNING BLUE AGAIN...
LAST TIME I CHECKED I COULD DO WHAT I FELT LIKE.
YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THAT GUY, AREN'T YOU!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, MY MOM?
YUSURA!

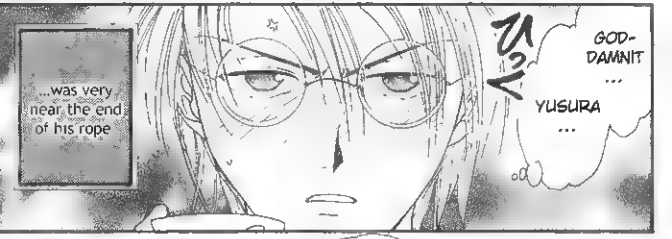
YOU...YOU REALLY LIKE THAT GUY?!
...MORE THAN ME?
SAMON-SAMA, THERE YOU ARE!
THINKING THAT MUCH YOU STILL DON'T KNOW?!
WHAT MIGHT YOU TWO BE DOING?

I MEAN IT'S ALWAYS BEEN SAMON THAT I...

WHA... WHAT?!
WE COULD MAKE A SMALL BUT HAPPY HOME TOGETHER...
WON'T YOU STAY IN THIS VILLAGE FOREVER?
HUH!?
LOOK, I'M SEARCHIN' FOR THE VILLAGE I WAS BORN IN, REMEMBER?
JU...JUST WAIT A SECOND HERE, TOUSHIROU-SAN!
SO IT IS THAT YOU DO NOT LIKE ME...
LI...
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS THROBBING PAIN IN MY CHEST?

I BEG YOU! YUSURA-DONO!
BUT WHAT ABOUT MY JOURNEY?
ON TOP OF THAT, MY PAR-ENTS ARE WAITING FOR ME AT HOME...
WHAT ABOUT MINEKICHI?
SAMON AND EVERY-ONE?
"DO YOU REALLY LOVE THAT GUY MORE THAN ME?"
I CAN NO LONGER GO ON LIVING WITHOUT YUSURA-DONO AT MY SIDE...
THAT'S RIGHT... I...
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THIS PER-SON
BUT.. FOR SOME REASON ..


But at the same time, the ever-vigilant Samon...
WHAT AM I TO DO!!


...was very near the end of his rope
ひっく
GOD-DAMNIT...
YUSURA...

ぱっ
I LIKE STRONG MEN...
SAMON-SAMA.
ゴゴゴ
DO WHAT YOU WANT!
ぐびっ
MY, SAMON-SAMA, YOU ARE SOOO STRONG!

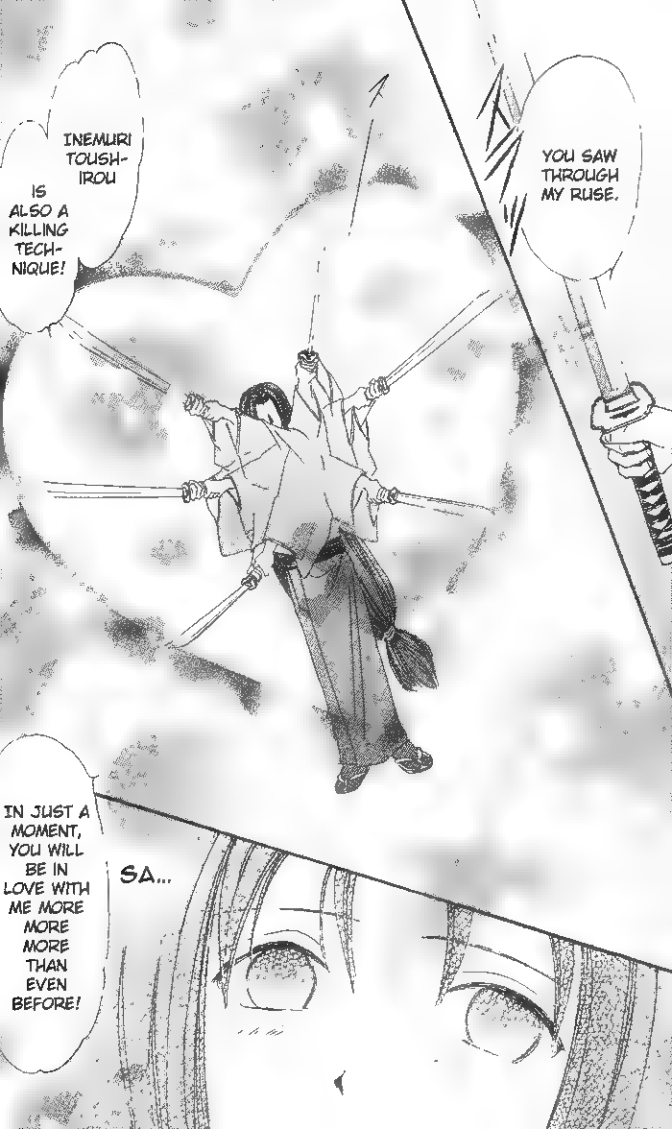
I'M SO COLD.
WON'T YOU STAY AND KEEP ME WARM TONIGHT?
ぎゅ
MY GLASSES..! WHERE ARE MY GLASSES!
ぱち
THIS IS... BAD...
VERY BAD.
がばっ
AAAAAAH!
YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE.

O...MIYA-SAN...
PLEASE! LISTEN!
This is truly an Edo comedy about departures and arrivals
PLEASE JUST GIVE UP ON YUSURA-SAMA.
IS SHE NOT NOW THE CAPTIVE OF TOUSHIROU?
E...
EVEN SO, I STILL LOVE HER!

THAT'S RIGHT...DON'T WORRY NOW. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS YOUR FEELINGS!
AREN'T YOU CONSTANTLY WATCHING HIM? KONGOUMARU TURNING BLUE HAS TO BE BECAUSE ...
WHA...
OMIYA-SAN! YOU LOVE TOUSHIROU, RIGHT?
AH...!!
I'LL GO FIND THOSE TWO RIGHT NOW!
YOU MUSTN'T GIVE UP!

NOW PLEASE HAND THE KONGOU-MARU OVER TO ME.
WHAT DO YOU NEED IT FOR WHEN YOU WANT TO LIVE WITH ME IN THIS VILLAGE FOREVER?
.....
NOW ...
YUSURA-DONO.
GAZE DEEPLY INTO MY EYES.
I...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
I...
I...

YUSUKE ?!
YOU LOVE ME, DO YOU NOT?
.....
...LOVE...?
MORE THAN SAMON?
LOVE?
"YOU LOVE HIM MORE THAN ME?"
I DUNNO.
SAMON ...
NOW I UNDER-STAND.
.....


INEMURI TOUSHIROU IS ALSO A KILLING TECHNIQUE!
YOU SAW THROUGH MY RUSE.
IN JUST A MOMENT, YOU WILL BE IN LOVE WITH ME MORE MORE MORE THAN EVEN BEFORE!
SA...

……
ばうばうばう

WELL YOU WERE CERTAINLY LATE! HA, MY BEAUTY WILL NOT FADE IN THE ABSENCE OF CLOTHES!
Would that be his service pose?
ガラッ
シャーン
SORRY, BUT I HAD TO KEEP MY PROMISE.
Well, and fan service
TOUSHIRO ...DONO...
YUSURA! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
...YUSURA ...!

WAKE UP!
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO TRULY LOVES YOU!

は？
……
！
YOU WERE UNDER A SPELL CASTED BY THIS BASTARD!
ALL HE REALLY WANTED TO DO WAS STEAL YOUR KONGOUMARU!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU! TRYING TO SNEAK AROUND LIKE THAT, SO SET ON STEALING THINGS THAT YOU'D EVEN BETRAY OMIYA-SAN!
YOU'RE REALLY BACK?! YUSURA!
SA... SAMON ...?!
...ME?

THE PERSON WHO REALLY WANTED TO HAVE THAT KONGOU STICK BY ANY MEANS WAS OMIYA.
I APOLOGIZE.
USING MY TECHNIQUE...
WAS I INTERFERING WITH REAL LOVE?
I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO USE MY HYPNOTIC ABILITIES BECAUSE SHE ASKED ME TO.
What?!
THAT'S HORRIBLE.
EHHH? BUT...BUT WHY?!

BY ANY MEANS, RIGHT?!
NOW GIVE ME THAT KONGOU STICK!
PLEASE STOP ALREADY! TAKE THAT MAN'S WORDS TO HEART AND...
OMIYA! WHEN DID YOU...
YUSUKA!!
Shit.
SHUT UP! I HEARD THAT IF I STOLE THAT STICK FROM YOU, I'D BECOME RICH!
MAN? WHO'S A MAN?!

SO THE REASON KONGOU-MARU WAS TURNING BLUE WAS...
AND WITH WHAT WILLINGNESS DID I SAY THAT? DO YOU STILL NOT GET IT...?
TOUSHIROU! I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WOULD HELP ME WITH THIS...!
"UNDER-STAND THE SADNESS OF OTHERS...
BUT, OMIYA-SAN, JUST REMEMBER THESE WORDS FOR ME...
SILENCE! I'LL BE TAKING THIS.
...FINE.

AND KNOW YOUR OWN SIN!" I THINK IT IS!!
KYAAAA~!
JMI-
"AAAA!!

OMIYA...I REALLY HAVE TO ADMIRE YOU FOR FALLING IN LOVE WITH SUCH A HORRIBLE MAN...
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU STOPPED ME, I WOULD NEVER LISTEN. IT MUST HAVE PAINED YOU SO MUCH ...
IT'S OKAY. SHE'LL WAKE UP SOON.
NEXT TIME IS FINE. ONCE SHE OPENS HER EYES, TELL HER, OKAY?
"I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO TRULY LOVES YOU" WILL DEFINITELY DRIVE THE POINT ACROSS.
SAMON-DONO...

YUSURA DEPARTS!?
The historic Jipangu was a country in Japan with Edo as the capital
WAIT UP BAST-ARD!!
Through a mysterious adamantine staff that turns blue after absorbing human sorrow, there is a girl who fights evi..
But as to how this orphan came to possession of it is an enigma...

SPEAKING OF WHICH, SAMON...
WELL, YUSURA, I THINK MY HEART COMMUNICATED MY FEELINGS QUITE WELL THAT TIME...
STUPID, IT'S BECAUSE SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM WITHOUT IT!
...And that is how, eventually, without knowledge of the true Toushirou or the location of Amosato
BUT I WONDER WHY TOUSHIROU-SAN NEVER CAST HIS MAGIC ON OMIYA-SAN?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER ANY OF IT!
DID YA SAY SOMETHIN' IMPORTANT?
MY MEMORIES OF LAST NIGHT ARE SO MURKY...
Well I guess it can't be helped, it was a spell and all...
Waaaa! It was a once-in-a-lifetime confession!
And true love learns just a little from this.
Searching for her yet unseen hometown, Yusura's journey continues on
＊おわり＊

HEY~ YUSURA!!
THAT WOODEN BRIDGE IS FALLING APART! BE CAREFUL~
FEEL THE SORROW OF OTHERS AND KNOW YOUR OWN SIN!

WELL, WE'VE FINALLY REACHED THE BREAKEUP OF THE WEDDING IN APPARE JIPANGU!!
EVERYONE!! THIS IS MINEKICHI!! A SIDE CHARACTER!! OF OUTSTANDING VIRTUE.
THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF A PHARMACY OWNER, YUSURA ASORBS SADNESS WITH HER WONDEROUS STAFF KONGOUMARU IN HER SADNESS EXSTINGUISHING BUSINESS!!
YUSURA
A SHORT REVIEW OF THE CIRCUM-STANCES.
SEARCHING FOR HER BIRTH PARENTS, SHE DEPARTS ON A JOURNEY WITH HER SENSITIVE CONNECTION SAMON, AND MYSELF.
YUSURA
SAMON
ME
POCHI
THE TRUTH IS THAT SHE WAS ABAON-DONED ALONG WIHT KONGOUMARU 16 YEARS BEFORE!
YOU'RE TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP.
.....TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, SHE IS LOCATING HER NATIVE... VILLAGE...
YE. .S

SIGH...
IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO MONTHS. ALTHOUGH WE'VE SEARCHED ALL AROUND...
WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND IT.
...IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THE "VILLAGE OF SADNESS" IS TO THE WEST! WHERE CAN IT BE?
AUGH
SAMON !!
SAMON?
SAMON!
.....
ISN'T THAT SO SAMON?

I'M TRYING...
TO LISTEN TO MY HEART.
THERE'S NO CONNECTION, BUT HE'S WEARING THE LATEST CONTACT LENSES
DIGGING INTO THIS PERIOD THEY LIVE IN IS NICE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY EMBARASSING? WEREN'T YOU THE ONE THAT WAS A LITTLE COLD LAST TIME?
YOU WERE IGNORING ME!!
...DON'T DO THAT. IT'S EMBARASSING!!
IT'S ONLY DONE IN WAR AND BETWEEN LOVERS!!
MUTTER MUTTER MUTTER
THESE ARE MINE!
WHUMP
THOSE ARE MY BREASTS
IT'S OKAY! ...I'M GOING TO TAKE A WALK.
HUH?
GRADUALLY WITH AGE, ONE WISHES FOR SOLITUDE, RIGHT?
HMMM. WHY'S SAMON ACTING SO STRANGE?
OUCH! OUCH! OUCH!

SIGH
I KNOW WHY.
HE'S THE BOLD TYPE. THE LAST TIME SAMON-SAMA CONFESSED HIS LOVE TO YUSURA HE KISSED HER!!
WHAT!!
THAT'S RIGHT!! I COMPLETELY REMEMBER!
YES. THAT'S RIGHT. AND SHE DIDN'T GET ANGRY!! I REMEMBER!!
BUT, THE TRUTH IS, THAT IT WAS LIKE THIS.
I REMEMBER!
YUSURA BETTER GET THIS STRAIGHT TOO.
BARK!
IF YOU ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT I'M GONNA KEEP THINKING ABOUT IT TOO
SAMON TO ME?

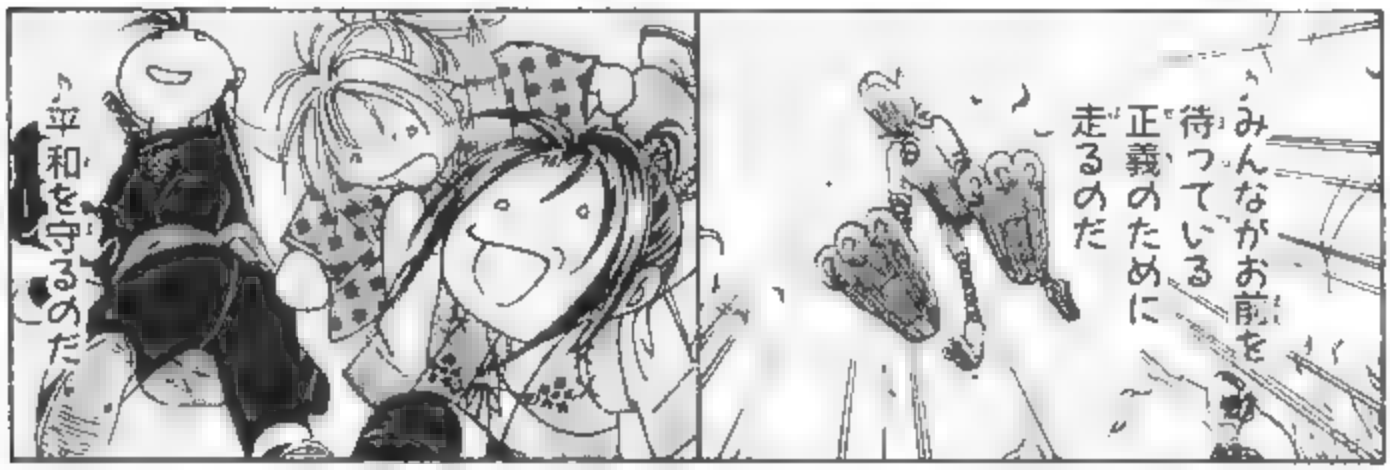
BUT.
"YUSURA... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SAMON?"
"THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TOWNSPEOPLE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD."
"SOMEDAY HE'LL LEAVE. HE'S THE TYPE OF PERSON THAT WILL JUST DISAPPEAR."
"WHAT!? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MOM..."
"IT'S OKAY. I'M JUST A LITTLE WORRIED- SAMON S A SAMURAI AFTER ALL"
THAT'S TRUE.
EVEN THOUGHT HE'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME, I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS...
BUT MOM SPOKE LIKE WE WERE.
WHAT!?

*EDITOR'S NOTE: MINEKICHI MISPRONOUNCES "AYE, AYE, SIR" AS "EYE-LINER"

POCHI GREAT'S THEME SONG

RUN! POCHI GREAT! YOUR PACE
MAKES WAVES IN THE SKY.

ONE LEAP CLEARS ANY MOUNTAIN.
GO! GO!! JUMP! JUMP!!

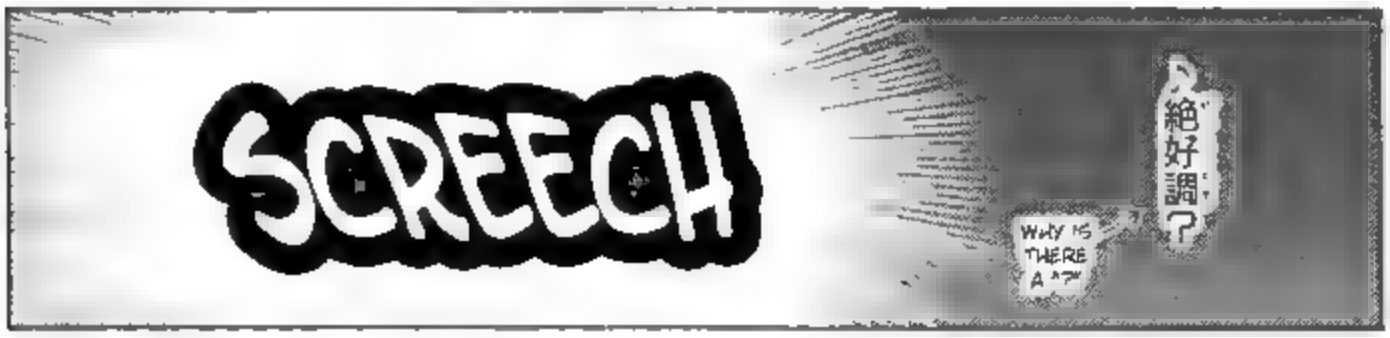


EVERYONE GOES TO WAIT FOR YOU.
RUN FOR THE SAKE OF
JUSTICE.

DEFEND THE PEACE.

DIVE THROUGH ENEMIES AND DIVE
THROUGH FIRE. YOU ARE STRONG.

TAKE A SHORT BREAK AFTER GOING
FULL THROTTLE.



IN PERFECT CONDITION?

!!
IS THIS THE... VILLAGE OF SADNESS...?
※THEIR RIDE BROKE DOWN
UMMM...

DASH DASH
UHH... I NEED SOME-THING TO DRINK..
LIKE COLA.
WWW..
DON'T RUN AWAY...
UHH... SHE'S RUNNING AWAY...
WHOOSH
BUT ..IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THIS IS THE PLACE. KONGOMARU IS EXCITED FROM SOMETHING A LONG TIME AGO.
YOU... WHO ARE YOU?!
THUD
!?
STOP
WHOA!
DANGER-OUS!!

THERE ARE NO STAFFS IN THIS VILLAGE!! LEAVE AT ONCE!!
ON TOP OF THAT, YOU COME AROUND AIMING THE "STAFF OF SADNESS" A CROWD OF PEOPLE.
CHAT
TER
TH.. THAT STAFF...
THIS IS KONGOUMARU ...WHAT IS THIS "STAFF OF SADNESS" YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT?"
W... WAIT A MINUTE!!
!?
STAFF OF SADNESS...
IT IS THE STAFF OF SADNESS ...!!

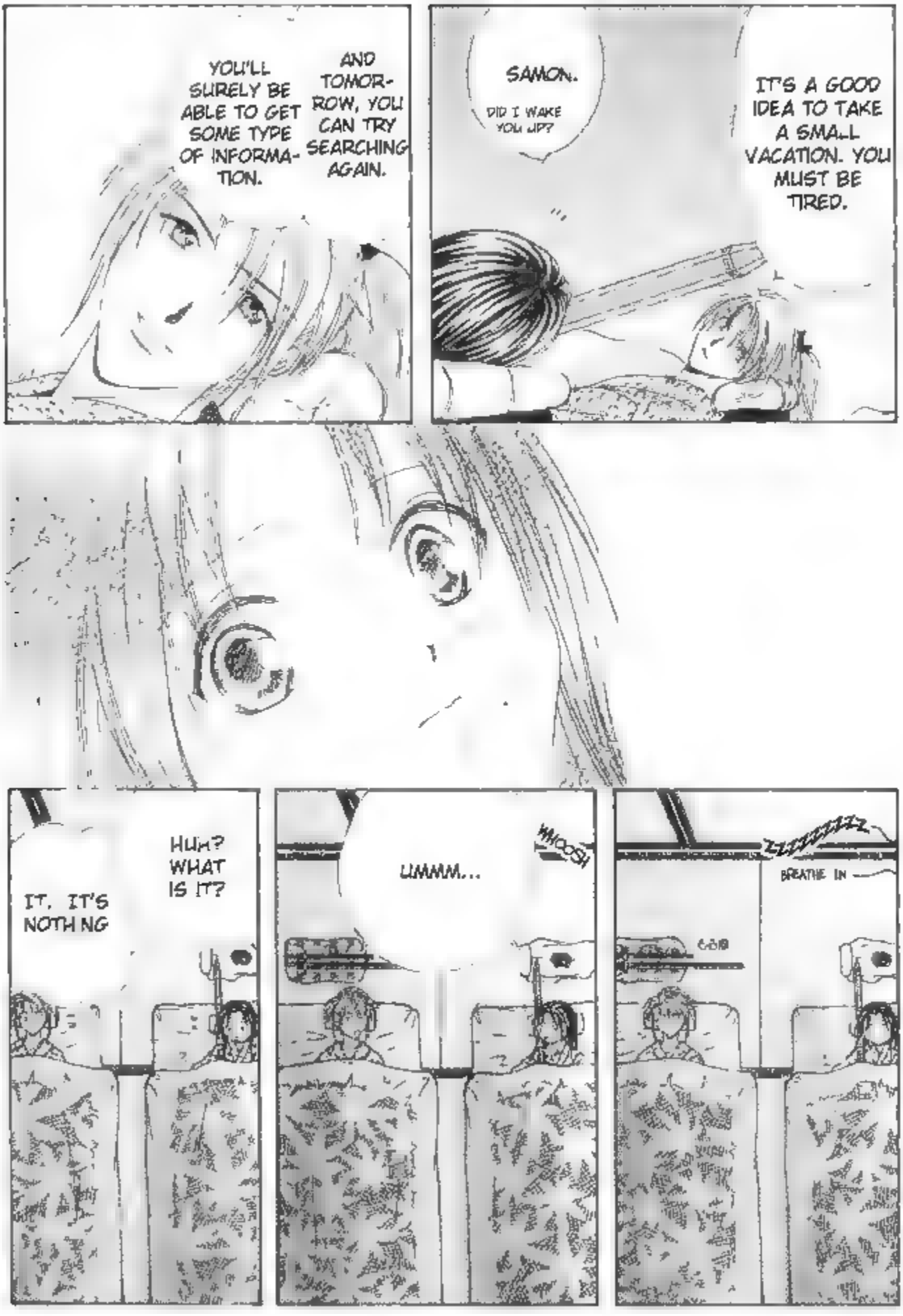
MY NAME IS DOUAN.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR THE IMPOLITENESS EARLIER.
YES, THIS IS REALLY MY PARENT'S...
THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE STAFF FOR THE LAST 16 YEARS HAS FINALLY BEEN UNCOVERED. THE STAFF HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE VILLAGE.
YES.
UMM.. IS THIS REALLY THE "VILLAGE OF SADNESS"?
I'M GLAD FOR YOU YUSURA!!
YAY!

A LONG TIME PASSED, AND EACH OF THE 4 HIDDEN VILLAGES WERE SECRETLY TAKEN OVER.
LEGEND HAS IT THAT A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OUR DISTANT ANCESTORS CREATED THESE STAFFS USING BUDDHIST POWERS.
EACH OF THE 4 STAFFS IS ABLE TO MANIPULATE AND TRANSFORM A PERSON'S PLEASURE, ANGER, SADNESS OR COMFORT INTO ENERGY.
HMM...THE PURPOSE OF THE STAFFS. MANY TIMES TRESSPASSERS COME TO THIS VILLAGE TO LEARN THAT.
SO, SOME TIME AGO THESE STAFFS HAD A PURPOSE... RIGHT?
WHAT KIND OF THINGS!?
YES. MANY TIMES HAVE THINGS BEEN SAID AS TO THEIR PURPOSE!!
R-R-R-RULER OF JAPAN!?
THE TRUTH IS...THAT IT IS SAID THAT WHOEVER WEILDED THESE FOUR STAFFS WOULD BE CHOSEN THE NEXT RULER OF JAPAN...

GASP
WHAT ABOUT CHIYO!?
THEIR ENEMY WAS TRYING TO COLLECT ALL 4 STAFFS.
16 YEARS AGO, THE VILLAGE WAS ATTACKED...
I SEE.
OUR STAFFS ARE IDENTICAL. BUT SHE CARRIES THE "STAFF OF ANGER"!?
THAT'S RIGHT. DESPITE THAT THEIR PURPOSE IS THE SAME.
ALRIGHT. THEN I'LL GO AND LOOK FOR CHIYO!
GO KAZANO-SUKE!
DRES-SER!
SWISH
IT'S "YES, SIR"
WHIPSER
WHISPER
WHISPER

16 YEARS AGO IN EDO, SOMEONE ABANDONED ME AND THIS STAFF, DO YOU KNOW WHO THAT PERSON IS?
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT!
HUH?
RETREAT
IS THAT SO!!
U ..UUM..
GULP
I DON'T KNOW. I WAS LOST AROUND THEN.
16 YEARS AGO? AROUND THAT TIME, ALIENS FROM SPACE ERASED MY MEMORY.
I DON'T KNOW. I WASN'T BORN THEN!
EXCUSE ME, MY MOTHER AND FATHER...
AT THAT TIME I WAS ENGROSSED WITH MY JOB.
.....
CHIRP CHIRP
UH HUH..

SIGH...
I DON'T THINK THAT I'LL MEET MY REAL PARENTS HERE. . . .
I THINK THEY WERE SCARED.
BUT, THE VILLAGES HAD SUCH STRANGE EXPRESSIONS.
THAT CAN'T BE IT.
YUSARA
TO CONTROL WHO'S THE RULER OF JAPAN?
IF THAT IS SO, KONGOU-MARU'S PURPOSE CAN'T BE WHAT THEY SAID


YOU'LL SURELY BE ABLE TO GET SOME TYPE OF INFORMATION.
AND TOMORROW, YOU CAN TRY SEARCHING AGAIN.
SAMON.
DID I WAKE YOU UP?
IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO TAKE A SMALL VACATION. YOU MUST BE TIRED.
IT, IT'S NOTHING
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
UMMM...
WHOOSH
ZZZZZZZZZ
BREATHE IN

PIERCE
PIERCE
WHOA
WAA
PIERCE
CLATTER
CLATTER
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON!?

LISTEN TO ME.
YUSURA!! RUN AWAY AND LEAVE THEM TO ME!!
THEY'RE AFTER KONGOUMARU!!
I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY!!
SMACK
THWACK
SLAM
WHY ARE YOU ATTACKING SOMEONE TEN YEARS YOUNGER!!. WHO'S BEHIND THIS!!
UGH... WHY.
!?
...DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WILL RETURN HOME CARRYING THAT STAFF!!

DAMN...
IF YOU WANT TO SPARE HIS LIFE, GIVE ME THAT STAFF!!
SLASH
UUHN...
MINE-KICHI?!
KASHI
BOOM

NO...MY BUDDHIST POWERS ONLY MAKE THEM FAINT
SLIDE
IS... IS HE DEAD?
DOUAN!
IS EVERYONE OKAY?!
UNMASK
...IT SEEMS THAT YOU HAVE MADE THE VILLAGERS YOUR ENEMY...!
RI
RI
IT'S A YOUNG MAN FROM THE VILLAGE ...!!
WHO IS THIS PERSON?!

THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO.
THIS "STAFF OF SADNESS" MUST BE OFFICALLY SEALED AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC EYE.
OUCH! OUCH!
AT THIS MOMENT, WE CANNOT POSPONE THIS ANY LONGER...
CONTROL YOUR-SELF!
AS IT IS RIGHT NOW, YOUR LIVES ARE IN DANGER!
SEALED...!?
I UNDERSTAND ..!! WE'RE GOING TO THE "MOUNTAIN OF DESTRUCTION" IN ORDER TO DISCARD IT!?
IT'S JUST LIKE "THE LORD OF THE RINGS"!
MY CHILD I WILL RETURN LATER
THWACK

RI
RI
RI
"IT MUST BE SHUT IN ROCK CRAG THERE SO NO HUMAN HANDS CAN REACH IT."
"THERE IS A SMALL CAVE ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF URA MOUNTAIN."
.....
"I'LL LET YOU THINK ABOUT IT COME"
"SO"

SQUEEZE
WHAT'S THE MATTER, YOU'RE AIMING IT AT SOMEONE AGAIN!
.....
SIGH...
YUSURA!
KONGOUMARU IS A PART OF YOURSELF...
SO, YOU YOU'VE MADE A DECISION.
YOU'RE CAN'T GIVE IT UP...IT'S NOT RIGHT.

GETTING THEM TO...

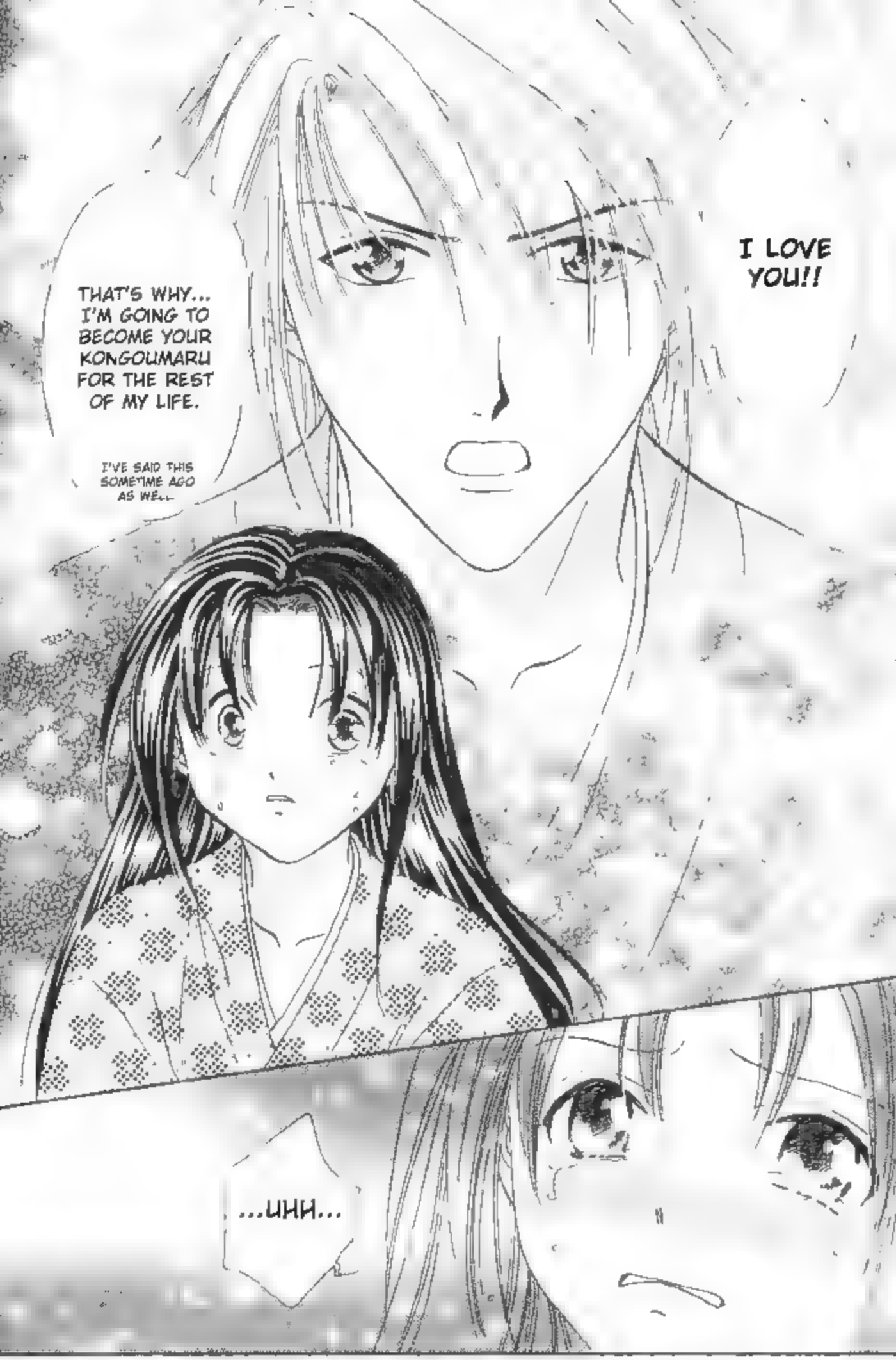
SEAL AWAY KONGOUMARU...

.....
HOW CAN I TROUBLE SO MANY OTHERS FOR THE SAKE OF KONGOUMARU?
...BECAUSE OF THIS, MINEKICHI WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED.
BUT HE'S TAKING IT QUITE WELL...
TOC
BUT HE'S MY... COMPANION.
AND JUST IN CASE...HE'LL ALWAYS...BE HERE-
BUT IT'S BETTER THAN DYING...AND THIS IS KONGOUMARU'S HOME TOWN.

WELL...
IS THIS FINE SAMON...?

THE TIMING OF YOUR WORDS COULD NOT BE ANY BETTER, BUT...
THE TRUTH IS, I SAW MY LONG LOST MOTHER BEFORE WE LEFT ON THIS JOUNEY.
WHAT!?
I'VE BEEN SECRETLY SEACHRING FOR HER WHERE-ABOUTS.
...MY MOTHER WORKS AT A RESTARAUNT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF EDO.
YUSURA, LOOK HERE.
SAMON...?

"NOTHING I CAN SAY CAN MAKE UP FOR MY APPREANCE...I'VE BEEN A BAD MOTHER."
"I'M SORRY SAMON."
I AGREE WITH HER NOW!!
BUT... THINK BACK ABOUT YOUR PARENT'S NEEDS.
"FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FUTURE... GO TO YOUR FATHER."
I WAS ABLE TO MAKE A DECISION..
YUSURA, I LEFT MY FAMILY!
WHAT!?
I PERSUADED MY FATHER... TO CHOOSE ANOTHER HEIR!!
MY MOTHER ONCE SAID TO ME
"DON'T LIVE IN SUCH A WAY THAT YOU DELAY LIVING."


I LOVE YOU!!
THAT'S WHY... I'M GOING TO BECOME YOUR KONGOUMARU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
I'VE SAID THIS SOMETIME AGO AS WELL
...UHH...

WAAAAAH
YASURA!? IS THIS OKAY!? ARE YOU OK!?
SO DELICATE!!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
GOODBYE

GOODBYE, KONGOUMARU...!!
THUD

BUT IF THEY RETURNED TO THE VILLAGE OF SADNESS BY THIS ROAD I WOULD HAVE SEEN THEM ALREADY!
MAYBE THE CIRCUS TROUPE WAS ATACKED AND CHIYO WAS ABDUCTED!

MEANWHILE, AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, KAZANOSUKE CONTINUES TO SEARCH FOR CHIYO.
AWFUL!

WHACK
WHACK
OUCH! THAT HURTS!!
WHAT ON EARTH COULD BE SO LOUD?

I GUESS SO...I'VE BEEN WRESTING WITH MY MIND WITH CLUES ABOUT MY PARENTS...
IT'S OKAY YUSURA!
YUSURA!!

GASP
THAT IS...!!

HMM?
IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO TELL US TO FOLLOW HIM!

UKYA...
UKYA UKYA ..

THAT'S MONKICHI!
HEY, IT'S KAZANO-SUKE...
I MISSED HIM.
YES!! HE WAS WEAK AND BEAT UP ON URA MAOUNTAIN!

MAYBE HE KNOWS WHERE CHIYO'S BODY IS...!!

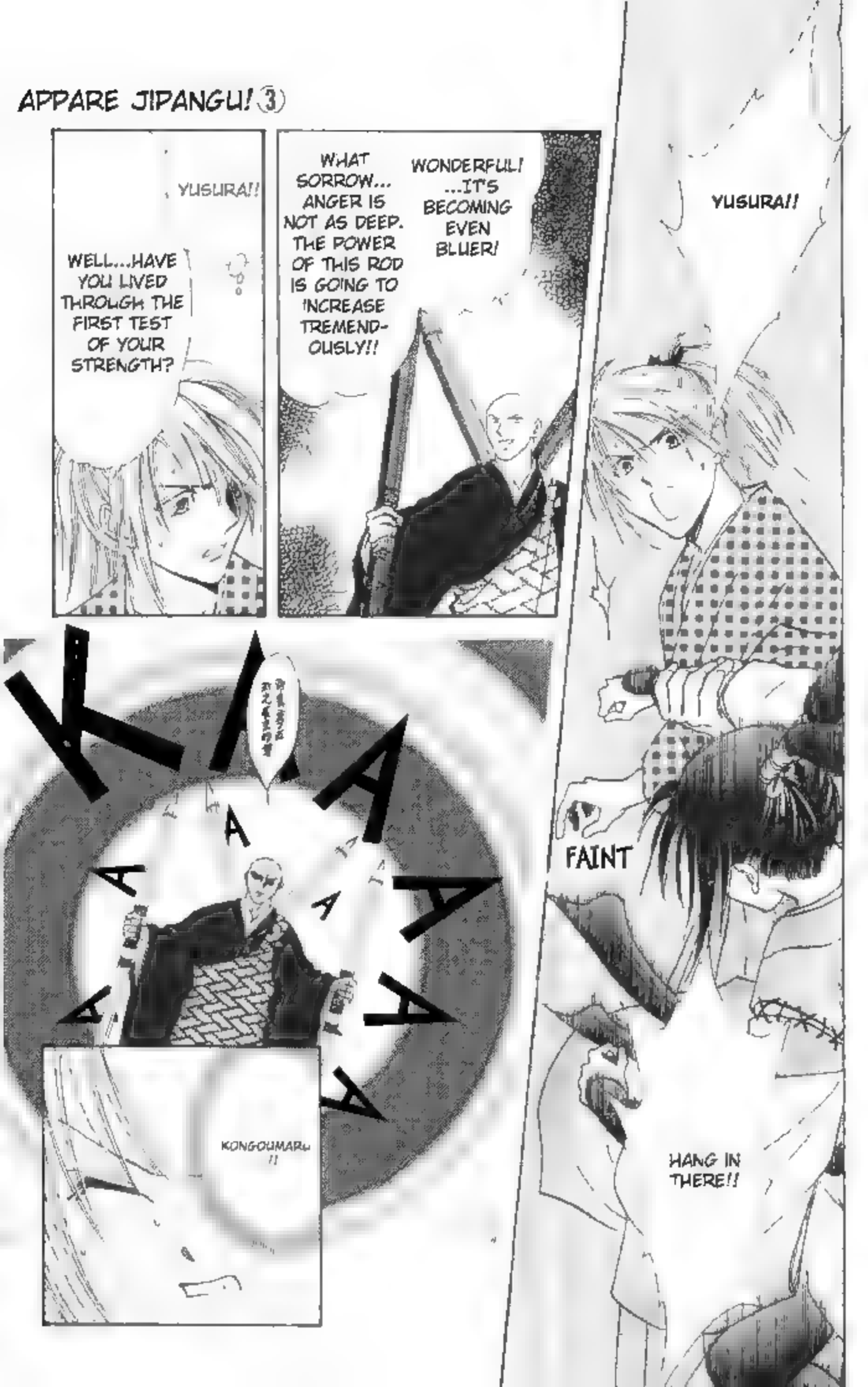
H-HEY. HAVEN'T WE BEEN TO THIS CAVE BEFORE?
UKYA...
THERE A LOT OF CAVES IN THIS MOUN-TAIN...
UNH...
GASP
THE OPENING IS NOT LARGE ENOUGH!
HEY, GIVE ME A PUSH!

CHIYO!?
GASP
...YUSURA...?
NO!! YUSURA .. HE ESCAPING WITH KONGOU-MARU!!
WHAT!?
HURRY, BEFORE HE GETS AWAY.....
GASP
...I...
YOU'RE OKAY!! THE PERSON WHO-
EVERYONE... WHY...

...WH-WHAT!?
...IT CAN'T... BE YOU...!!
OBTAINING THE STAFF OF COMFORT AND STAFF OF HAPPINESS WAS EASY. AND FOR THE LAST 16 YEARS...I CONTINUED SEARCHING FOR THE "STAFF OF SADNESS" AND THE "STAFF OF ANGER."
WITH THE LEGENDARY KONGOUMARU, I HAVE OBTAINED ALL FOUR STAFFS.
D... DOUAN!?
HEHE..
YOU'RE ALREADY TOO LATE!
CRUNCH

"WHY DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WILL RETURN HOME CARRYING THAT STAFF?"
I APPROPRIATELY DREW FROM WHATEVER BUDDHIST POWERS I POSSESED.
I ESPECIALLY SPENT TIME AND EFFORT IN FINDING THE "STAFF OF SADNESS". THUS I ARRIVED IN THIS VILLAGE AHEAD OF YOU AND WAITED.
THAT'S... WHAT YOU ARE. YOU KILLED BOTH MY PARENTS WHO TRIED TO PROTECT "STAFF OF ANGER" AND MYSELF!!
... MURDER-ER!!
EVERYONE WAS UNDER YOUR CONTROL!?
I THREATED THE VILLAGERS WITH THESE 3 STAFFS AND THEY OBEYED ME WITHOUT QUESTON.
YOU CAN ONLY WATCH AS I ASCEND FROM THESE MONK'S ROBES TO BECOME THE RULER OF JAPAN!!
HUH!?
B-DMP

ZUN
...DIE...
B-DMP
YOU'RE AN IDIOT... 16 YEARS AGO, IF THEY HAD JUST QUICKLY GAVE ME THE STAFFS YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPY.
BOTH YOUR PARENTS HAD A STAFF TO PROTECT THEM... AND THEY WERE BOTH ESCAPING WIITH THEIR CHILD.
B-DMP
B-DMP
I EASILY CAPTURED THEM. HOWEVER, THEY REFUSED TO TELL WHAT THEY HAD DONE WITH THE STAFFS. HENCE, THEY WERE SENT TO THE NEXT WORLD.
B-DMP


YUSURA!!
WELL...HAVE YOU LIVED THROUGH THE FIRST TEST OF YOUR STRENGTH?
WHAT SORROW... ANGER IS NOT AS DEEP. THE POWER OF THIS ROD IS GOING TO INCREASE TREMENDOUSLY!!
WONDERFUL! ...IT'S BECOMING EVEN BLUER!
YUSURA!!
FAINT
HANG IN THERE!!
KONGOUMARu!!

THUD
THUD
THUD
MINEKICHI, TAKE CARE OF YUSURA!!
SSSSSS
SAMON!?
THUD
UHH...

SMASH!!
HUH?
WHA- WHAT WAS THAT BLUE BEAM?
IT'S THE HIKESHI-YA YUSURA! SHE'S WHAT EDO IS FAMOUS FOR!
OH! SHE ABSORBS THE SADNESS OF HER CLIENTS INTO THE STAFF AND USES IT TO CONVERT CRIMINALS!
HER HOME/STORE/ PHARMACY "NANIWA" HAS BECOME VERY POPULAR BECAUSE OF HER!

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE:
THE STORE NAME IS A LITTLE LIKE "WHAT THE HELL" IN JAPANESE, I DUNNO

CRACKLE
SLASH
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
DAMN...
ARG...
SAMON!!

TAKE IT...I'M RETURNING... KONGOMARU...
...ALTHOUGH... YOU WANTED TO GET RID OF IT...
SAMON!! HOLD ON!!
.. YU .. SURA...
I... VALUE... YOUR SERVICE...
STUPID RASCAL!! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...
SA...

SAMON..
YUSURA!!
DON'T MOVE!!
I STILL HAVE 3 MORE RODS!!
...YOU WANT TO BE CHOSE AS THE NEXT RULER OF JAPAN?
WHAT AN EMARASSING MISTAKE...
TO HAVE THIS ROD FOR THAT TYPE OF REASON...
I CAN READ YOUR THOUGHTS...!!
AMAZING..!! THAT GREEN COLOR. UNTIL NOW, I'VE NEVER SEEN IT!!

KNOW THE SADNESS OF OTHERS AND REALIZE YOUR OWN SIN!!

EMPTY...
SAMON...
WAKE UP...
IT'S OKAY IF I HAD YOU INSTEAD OF KONGOUMARU.
BUT YOU...YOU... I WANT TO BE BY YOUR SIDE FOREVER...!!
THE POWER OF 3 RODS...THEY EXPLODED!?
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CLACK

YES!!
THEN WILL YOU MARRY ME?
YES!
...DO YOU LOVE ME?
I ALREADY KNEW THAT.
WELL THEN..

WHACK
YOU TRICKED ME!!
OUCH!! THAT REALLY HURT...
YOU KNEW!
BLUSH
THUS THE TIME FOR THE END OF YUSURA'S JOURNEY CAME.
AND FINALLY WE RETURNED TO THE SAFE EDO.
OH?
YUSURA WAS ABLE TO LEARN ABOUT HER BIRTH PARENTS AT LAST...
PLEASE TAKE THIS AS A SOUVENIR. IT IS YOUR FATHER'S AND YOUR MOTHER'S KIMONOS.
YUSURA... KONGOUMARU HAS BECOME PURE WHITE HASN'T IT?
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY IT WAS A PALE BLUE

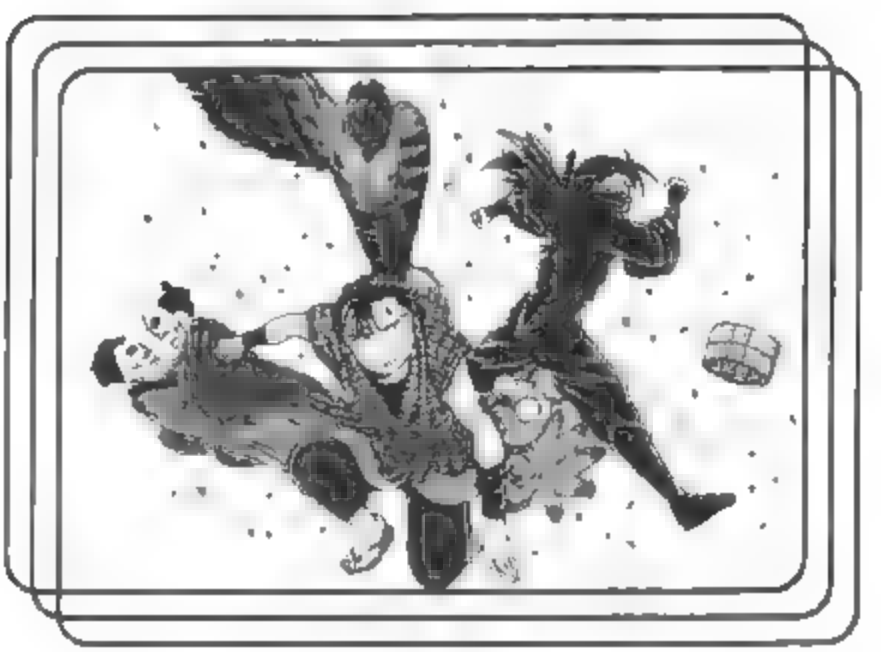
AHH!
HER SADNESS WAS CURED.
THUD THUD THUD
YUSURA! I'M OFF TO WORK!
HEY!
I'M GOING BEST OF LUCK!
OKAY!
HIKESHIYA YUSURA IS TODAY NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS
IN ANY CASE, APPARE! JIPANGU!
NO THEY'RE ACROBATICS
THOSE NINJA ARTS EARLIER WERE INTERESTING
BY THE WAY, KAZANOSUKE JOINED CHIYO'S CIRCUS...

<END OF THE CHAPTER!!> THE END

ARE YOU STILL WHINING ABOUT BOTCHING THE LAST JOB?
SHIIIT~ MY LIFE'S A FAILURE NOW THAT I MESSED UP.
ごろり
IT'S ALRIGHT BECAUSE I DRANK SOME SUPER YUNKERU!*
YOU'VE HELPED OUT THREE PEOPLE ALREADY TODAY AND JUST ACCEPTED TWO MORE JOBS, OF COURSE YOU'RE GOING TO BE EXHAUSTED

*SOME SORT OF POWER DRINK

FINAL
THANKS



YOU ARE!!!!
YOU ACCEPTED THAT RIDICULOUSLY DIFFICULT REQUEST
AND WHAT'S MORE, IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR JOB CRASHED INTO A WHICH HAS A REPAIR COST ROUGHLY ABOUT YOUR ENTIRE EARNINGS!
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF REQUEST WAS IT?
THE THOUSAND YEAR CLOCK?! THAT'S RIDICULOUS!!
In this era clocks were high-class items only possessed by the upper class or famous and could not be bought in stores.
IT'S BECAUSE I WAS RAISED AS AN ORPHAN
I WAS SO NERVOUS CARRYING SUCH AN EXPENSIVE ITEM.
BESIDES BEING A SMALL-BREASTED SINGLE-CELLED ORGANISM, EH?
I CAN STILL MAKE IT IN TIME FOR THE CELEBRATION IF I GO ALL OUT.
JUST GOT PUNTED
Burning
Now calm down
WAIT!

HUH?
I'VE FOUND YOU!!!
FINALLY... FINALLY
MINEKICHI! HE'S HOLDING A LEAFLET; DO YOU THINK HE'S A CUSTOMER?
HMMM~~
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE HAS MUCH MONEY DOES HE...
I ONLY WORK FOR MONEY
SORRY BUT I HAVE A PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT
LIAR
Usually it's less but today it's cash only policy
BAM!
HUH?
DEFINITELY
EMOTIONAL
THAT KONGOUBOU*
*ADAMANTINE STAFF

AAC
MY DAUGHTER!!
HOW I'VE YEARNED FOR YOU!!!

I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU THESE PAST 16 YEARS!
YES IT'S ME... PAPA!
DAUGHTER ...!?
DAUGH-TER!?
I'M NOT YOUR DAUGHTER! ....BUT, I'LL BELIEVE YOU IF YOU CAN EXPLAIN!
YOU'RE LYING!
PA....
LI-

I UNDERSTAND YOUR DOUBT BUT PLEASE BELIEVE ME!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
GADO
YES... 16 YEARS AGO...
THEN... IF THAT'S THE CASE!!! EXPLAIN WHY YOU ABANDONED ME AT BIRTH!
WHILE EDO WAS STILL APART OF THE PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT
DEEP WITHIN THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAIN...
...WOULD YOU GUYS LIKE TO GO EAT FIRST?
THE NAME OF THAT PLACE WAS..."THE CAVERN OF SORROW"*
*AI NO ZATO

IT WAS SO NAMED BECAUSE THE VADJRA OF THE CAVERN GLOWS POWERFULLY IN SORROW!
STAFF OF SORROW?
BUT BECAUSE THE 4 STAVES WERE USED FOR EVIL PURPOSES, THE CAVERNS WERE ATTACKED.
YES, THE 4 STAFFS, JOY, ANGER, SORROW, PLEASURE, EACH CREATED FOR THE LEGENDARY SENAOSHI.
THAT DAY! THE MIKO OF THE CAVERN CAME TO ME!
"IT HAS BEEN PROPHESIZED THAT THE NEWLY BORN CHILD WILL SURELY PROTECT THE STAFF"
I WEPT PROFUSELY AT THE THOUGHT OF SURRENDERING MY CHILD!
I NAMED IT MOMIJI!! AND THAT CHILD IS YOU!!

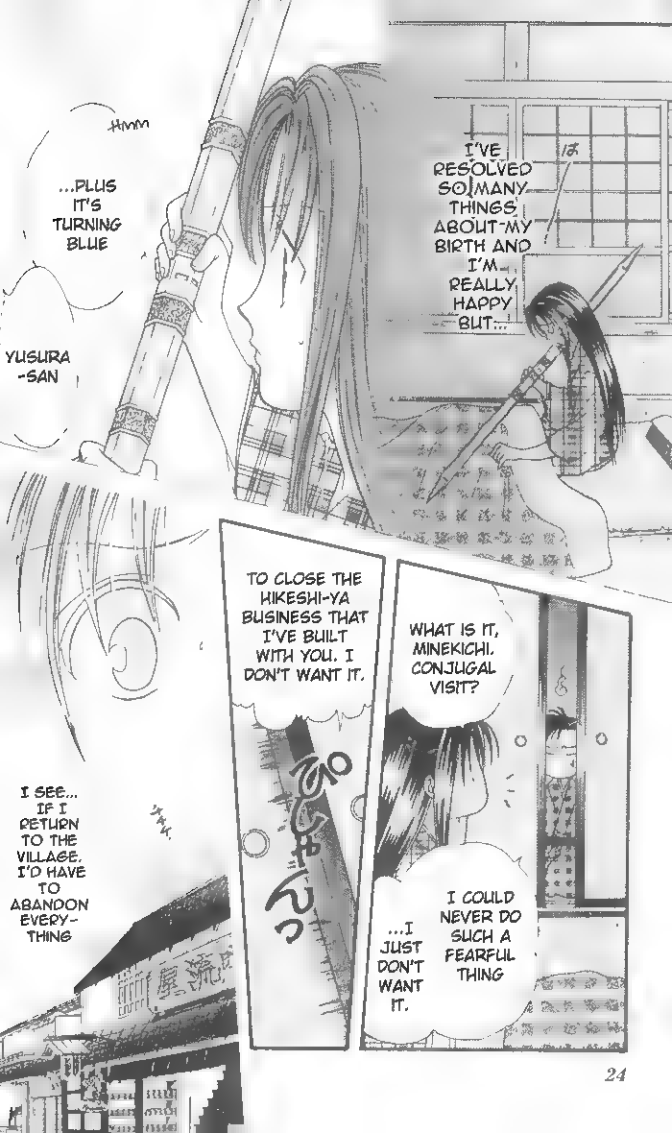
MIKO = PRIESTESS
MOMIJI = AUTUMN

*LAST NAME, FIRST FOR JAPANESE

EEEHH !?
YOU ARE MOMIJI !!!
I'm Kiku Tarou
ME ?!
I SLOWLY LOST EVERYTHING FROM THE CAVERN AND EVENTUALLY MY WIFE AS WELL.
WHEN I FINALLY LOST THE ENEMY I HEARD OF YOUR RUMORS OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS AND SPENT THE LAST 16 YEARS SEARCHING FOR YOU!
PROCESSING.
CAVERN OF SORROW
4 staves?
Momiji Origins
THEN I HEARD THE STORY OF THE "HIKESHIYA" AND I REMEMBERED... SLOWLY I WANDERED HERE...
LAST TIME CHIYO-CHAN WAS CARRYING THE STAFF OF ANGER, RIGHT?
AT FIRST I HAD DOUBTS BUT HE SEEMS SERIOUS
STILL PROCESSING
WHAT DO YOU THINK SAMON-SAN?

EH!?
NOW MOMIJI! LET'S RETURN HOME!
BUT FOR US TO MEET SO COINCIDENTALLY! HOW FORTUNATE!
THREE DAYS FROM NOW... HER PARENT'S WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!
I HAVE TO FIRST SAY FAREWELL TO MY FOSTER PARENTS FIRST... SO PLEASE WAIT 3 DAYS!
SO SUDDENLY ...!!
MOMIJI... THAT STAFF IS THE PROTECTING GOD OF OUR VILLAGE.
IT IS CRUCIAL RIGHT NOW FOR YOU TO RETURN IT!!

OH.
YUSURA ARE YOU FIGHTING WITH SAMON-SAMA AGAIN?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT YUSURA... HOW HAS YOUR HEALTH BEEN?
RETURN KONGOU-MARU...!?
...DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
UH...
You You keep saying such stupid things!
Kapow
UM...
HMM?
Nikkori
I CAN'T SAY IT...!!
IS WHAT DAD TOLD ME BUT...


Hmm
...PLUS IT'S TURNING BLUE
YUSURA -SAN
I'VE RESOLVED SO MANY THINGS ABOUT MY BIRTH AND I'M REALLY HAPPY BUT...
TO CLOSE THE HIKESHI-YA BUSINESS THAT I'VE BUILT WITH YOU. I DON'T WANT IT.
WHAT IS IT, MINEKICHI. CONJUGAL VISIT?
I SEE... IF I RETURN TO THE VILLAGE, I'D HAVE TO ABANDON EVERY-THING
...I JUST DON'T WANT IT.
I COULD NEVER DO SUCH A FEARFUL THING

...DAD! WHY DID YOU MAKE THIS ANNOYING THING TO WAKE ME UP!
SORRY, SORRY
結局徹夜
ぱちっ
I'M PLANNING ON MAKING SOME GREAT MACHINES NOW ALL FOR YOU!
LOOK! I'M ALL HUNCH-BACKED FROM WORKING~~~
DAD... IS ALWAYS DOING THINGS LIKE THAT FOR ME ....
GOO~~D MORNIN~~G

HM?
IS THIS A JOKE? COMING TO DAD'S HOUSE LIKE..
WHA-WHA! WHY....
AAAHH
YU-SURA'S PA-...
OH MY! DO YOU HAVE A REQUEST?
IS THE HIKESHIYA-DONO IN?
OF THE ANCESTRAL FATHERS AND MOTHERS... I WONDER WHO WAS NAMED PAPAYA SUZUKI
-PAYA SUZUKI AFRO ISN'T IT MINE-KICHI?

*SHE'S REFERRING TO TAROU'S HAIR LOOKING LIKE A PAPAYA

YUSURA -SAN!
UM....I'M SORRY BUT CAN YOU NOT COME TO THE STORE ANYMORE?
I HAVEN'T TOLD MY FOSTER PARENTS ABOUT ANY-THING YET...
YUSURA, PLEASE WAIT. HERE ARE SOME ONIGIRI!
Munekichi's share too
THEY'LL HELP GIVE YOU ENERGY THROUGHOUT THE DAY!
AH. I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT.
MOTHER ...
I THOUGHT SINCE I HAD NEGLECTED YOU ALL THESE YEARS WE COULD SPEND SOME FAMILY TIME.
COULD IT BE THIS PERSON'S... SADNESS? BECAUSE OF ME?
ZUKIN.

OH YEAH... SAMON THAT JERK.
IF I WERE TO RETURN... HOW WOULD YOU REACT?... YOU...
OH WELL... I WONDER IF SAMON SAN WILL COME AND BEG TOO?
YOUR SYMPATHETIC NATURE AS A HIKESHIYA IS KICKING IN ISN'T IT.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU HOLDING UP? WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M DOING KAZE-NOSUKE!
WHAT ARE YOU SITTING AROUND FOR! DO SOMETHING!
ベちっ
M
YUSURA'S REAL FATHER HAS APPEARED!?
ANYWAYS THAT EYEBROWS-SAN'S STORY...KAZENOU SHI I NEED MORE INFORMATION.

COULD HE BE ONE OF THOSE TRYING TO STEAL THE STAFF?
I'M SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUS ...
EH!?
I HEARD EVERYTHING YOU SAID ON THAT BRIDGE!
しゅう
Should run? Should run?
HERE! TAKE THIS 100 RYOU!
HUH?
七四八
SHICHIZUN... THIS IS WHERE YOU CRASHED INTO ON THE WATCH JOB RIGHT?

100 RYOU!!
MINEKICHI! DON'T EXCEPT IT OUT OF HABIT!
It's a little too late
HERE IS THE PAYMENT HARERUYA-SAN FOR YOUR PRODUCT
WA-WAIT! NO MATTER HOW EXPENSIVE ...
IT'S ALRIGHT! THIS IS THE MONEY I'VE SAVED UP THE LAST 16 YEARS FOR YOU!
PLUS I WANT TO THANK THOSE TWO FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR THEIR KINDNESS
PLUS YOU'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD ALL THIS TIME, RIGHT?

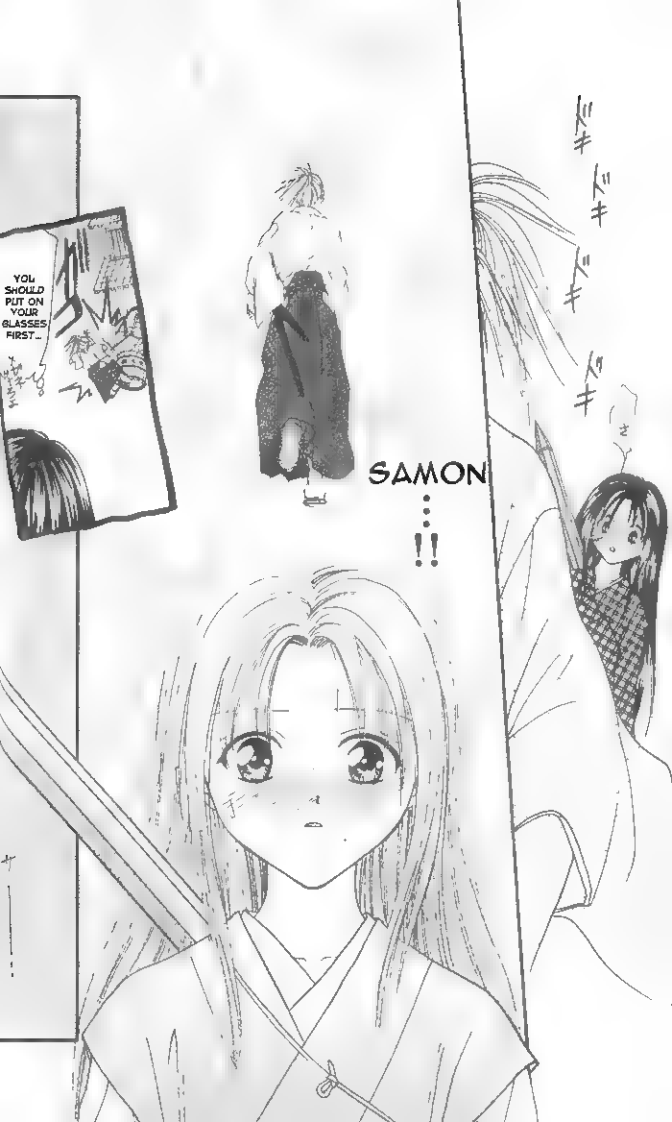
"TOMORROW I'M ONLY GOING TO RETURN KONGOUBOU WITH HIM"
"WHEN THE TIME COMES I'LL TELL DAD."
"DAD..."
The Night before the Promised Day
SAMON!?

BEFORE YOU DECIDE YOU SHOULD THINK THOROUGHLY ABOUT IT!
HEH.... I DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT HAPPENS
WHAT'S WRONG? COMING AT SUCH AN HOUR...I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR SHADOW FOR THE LAST 2 DAYS!
TOMORROW IS THE PROMISED DAY RIGHT? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'LL DO?
EVEN KAZENOUSHI'S VILLAGE HAS HEARD NOTHING ABOUT THE LEGEND OF THE FOUR VILLAGES.
I'VE DONE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION, BUT...
ARE YOU... GOING BACK?
...SO YOU MEAN THE REAL STORY... IS....

I DON'T KNOW...
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE MY PARENTS YET! BUT- BUT TO BE WITH MY REAL FATHER... I... I...
...AND TO GIVE UP KONGOU-MARU— ...WHAT SHOULD I DO?
...ARE THE ONLY THINGS HOLDING YOU BACK YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER?
OF COURSE NOT! THERE'S ALSO MINE-KICHI... AND KAZE-NOSUKE... —AND BESIDES THEM...

EH?
HUG...
SAMON ...?

I CAN'T... AFTER ALL I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO, DO I?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DECIDES
I...DON'T WANT TO LET YOU GO...
.....BUT


YOU SHOULD PUT ON YOUR GLASSES FIRST...
SAMON
...!!

SHOULD I JUST GIVE HIM KONGOU-MARU?

WHAT SHOULD I DO?!

SHOULD I GO BACK WITH HIM?

DAD AND THE OTHERS... AND SAMON. CAN I JUST LEAVE THEM ALL?

ALRIGHT! YOU SHOULD BE HELPING ME ANYWAYS!

...BESIDES TODAY IS THE PROMISED DAY...

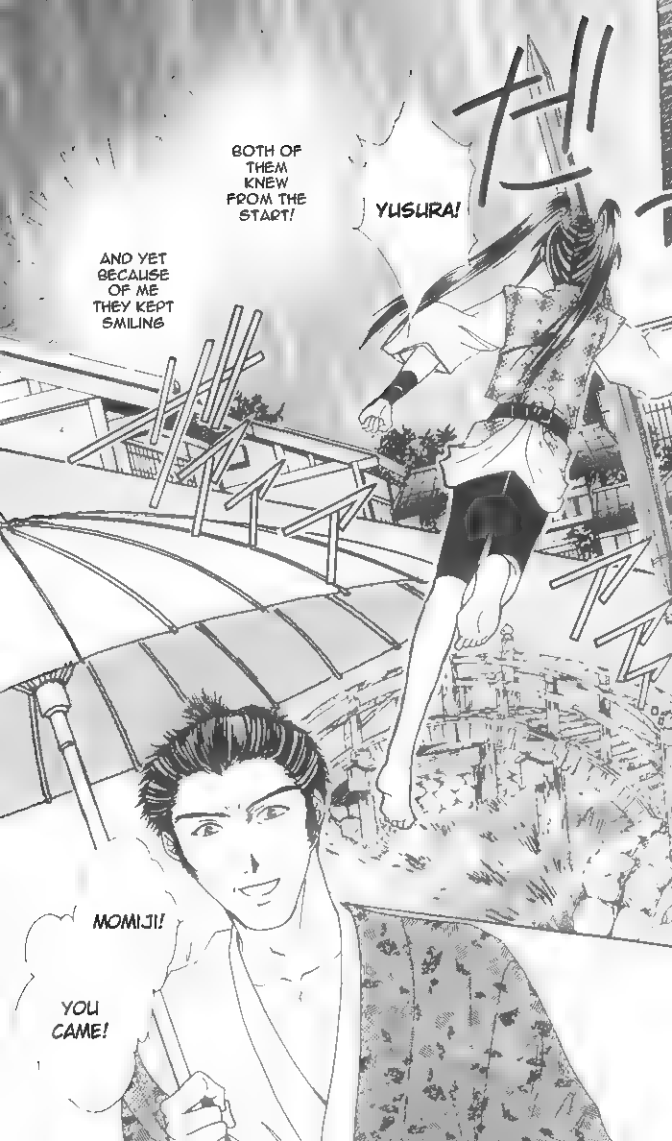
I'LL BE WAITING BY THAT BRIDGE—

YUSURA? IS IT OKAY FOR US TO OPEN OUR EYES NOW?

HAPPY WEDDING ANNI-VER-SARY !!
DAD! Mom!
DAMMIT! I DON'T KNOW!
I'M SO HAPPY... THANK YOU SO MUCH...
I SEE... YOU...
THE REASON YOU'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD WAS FOR THIS...
THIS SPECIAL ORDER WILL GUARANTEE YOU TO BE A HAPPILY MARRIED COUPLE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS!

BOU!
WHAT? IT'S TURNING BLUE!?
!?
YUSURA.
YOU SHOULD GO TO YOUR REAL FATHER..
EH?
DID YOU EXPECT US NOT TO KNOW?
WE HAVE CONNEC-TIONS IN EDO AS WELL.

THEN... DON'T TELL ME THIS BLUE IS...!!
BESIDES, EVERYTIME YOUR EXPRESSION CHANGED I KNEW SOMETHING WAS UP. HOW MANY YEARS DO YOU THINK WE HAVE TAKEN CARE OF YOU?
GAN
Is that all
WHO TOLD?! I ONLY TOLD A FEW PEOPLE A BIT AT THE RESTAURANT AND STORES
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU IN SUCH PAINFUL HESITATION ANYMORE
BUT THIS TIME IT'S YOUR REAL FATHER'S TURN TO EXPERIENCE SUCH HAPPINESS.
IT HAS BEEN SUCH A JOY FOR THE LAST 16 YEARS...YOU ARE THE BEST DAUGHTER A MAN COULD HAVE.


BOTH OF THEM KNEW FROM THE START!
YUSURA!
AND YET BECAUSE OF ME THEY KEPT SMILING
MOMIJI!
YOU CAME!

I CAN'T GO AFTERALL
EH?
...I'M SORRY...
I SEE...
KONGOU-MARU... PLEASE TAKE IT!

TUG TUG
TUG
IT CAN'T BE HELPED... I MUST THEN RETURN IN RESIGNATION.
KONGOU-MARU!
YUSURA!
AH!
YOU!

LET GO DAMMIT!
YOU GIVE IT UP NICELY!
YOU...
みしっ
みしみし
YUSURA!

...JUST STOP IT KAZENOSUKE AND CRAWL BACK INTO YOUR SHADOW.
SAMON-SAMA! ARE YOU GOING TO SEE YUSURA ONE LAST TIME AFTERALL?
I GUESS IT WAS HOPE-LESS AFTER-ALL...
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO THE CLOCK SHOP!?
HOW DO I EXPLAIN... I RECEIVED HIS PAYMENT OF 100 RYOU...
BUT IT WAS ALL COUNTERFEIT!
!!
YOU ARE YUSURA-DONO THE HIKESHIYA'S FRIEND RIGHT? DO YOU KNOW WHERE THAT EYEBROW GUY IS?
I JUST WENT TO HARERUYA BUT IT WAS COMPLETELY EMPTY!

KU...
I CAN'T HOLD ON...
YUSURA!

...LE-LET GO YOU LITTLE BRAT!
I DIDN'T COME ALL THIS WAY TO LOSE!
ARE YOU... MY DAD...
YOU...

HEH
WHO THE HELL WOULD BE YOUR FATHER?!
I'VE BEEN A CON-MAN WHO FAKES MONEY FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS!
BUT SINCE REAL MONEY IS HARD TO COME BY I THOUGHT I'D STEAL THIS LEGENDARY KONGOUBOU!
I HAD PLANNED TO KILL YOU AND THEN STEAL IT. NOW HURRY UP AND LET GO!
DA... MMIT
SLIP-
YUSURA! HANG ON!
WE'RE COMING!

AH!
DAMMIT!
PI!

SAMON!
and Kaze-nosuke!
...JUST IN TIME...!
HA...

YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD JUST PLAY WITH MY FEELINGS, HUH?
THANKS FOR HELPING PRODUCE SUCH A DEEP HUE OF BLUE! F-A-T-H-E-R!
PON
PON
A
WA
WA
...
UNDERSTAND THE SADNESS OF OTHERS...

AND KNOW YOUR OWN SIN!
YUSURA-SAN... YOU'LL CATCH A COLD...

YUSURA ...
THAT WAS SO STUPID... WHY DID YOU TWO JUMP IN?
...OF COURSE WE DID. WE'RE YOUR PARENTS!
DA...
DADDY! MOMMY!
——THUS. ANOTHER ENIGMA SOLVED. YUSURA'S FALSE FATHER RAN AWAY.
THEN I'LL GO SEARCH FOR THE HIDDEN VILLAGES!

〈桜桃、別れの時!?之巻〉＊おわり＊